

Photo by Gary Stewart

WINNING TOUCHDOWN—Kings Mountain's Jay Schronce streaks into the endzone with the only score of the game Friday as the Mountaineers defeated arch rival Shelby 8-0 in overtime in the season's finale for both teams at Shelby's Blanton Memorial Stadium.

The Mounties ended with five straight victories and tied Shelby for third place in the final Southwestern 3-A Conference standings.

Southwest Standings

Teams	Conf. W-L	All W-L
Crest	9-0	10-0
East Ruth.	8-1	9-1
Kings Mtn.	6-3	6-4
Shelby	6-3	7-3
E. Gaston	4-5	4-6
S. Point	4-5	4-6
N. Gaston	3-6	4-6
Burns	2-7	3-7
Chase	2-7	2-8
R-S Central	1-8	1-9

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

Kings Mtn. 8, Shelby 0
Crest 31, R-S Central 9
E. Gaston 26, Burns 6
S. Point 45, Chase 14
East Ruth. 20, N. Gaston 6

Finish Tied For Third

Mounties Blank Lions 8-0 In OT

End Jay Schronce of Kings Mountain made the only touchdown reception of his career in overtime Friday night to give the Mountaineers an 8-0 victory over Shelby in the Southwestern 3-A Conference finale for both teams at Shelby's Blanton Memorial Stadium.

The victory by the Mountaineers put the two arch rivals tied for third place in the final SWC standings with 6-3 records. Shelby finished 7-3 overall and the Mounties were 6-4 overall.

Schronce's 11-yard catch from quarterback Chris Champion gave the Mounties a five-game winning streak to close out the season. They were 1-4 at the halfway mark.

Both teams threatened but couldn't quite get on the board during regulation play. Kings Mountain got the first crack at scoring from the 10-yard line in overtime.

After a holding penalty on first down pushed the Mounties back to the 22, Champion im-

mediately went to the air. Trent Hullender caught a short pass and bulled his way to the 11, and then Schronce caught another short pass and streaked into the endzone untouched for the touchdown. Tracy Johnson ran for a two-point conversion.

After an illegal motion penalty pushed Shelby back to the 10 on fourth down, the Lions also attempted to go to the air. But Kings Mountain's secondary had all the Lion receivers well-covered and quarterback Bill Gamble tried to roll around left end for the score. Linebacker Tommy Welch of the Mounties ran him down at the two to end the game.

The Mounties had two good drives halted earlier. In the first half, they drove to the Shelby 15 before losing the ball on downs. They had two plays to pick up one foot, but Shelby's strong defensive front stopped two straight runs into the middle of the line.

Late in the game, after converting a fourth and one at their own 30, Pressley broke loose on a 41-yard run to the Shelby 25 before being knocked out of bounds. After a 15-yard penalty, Shelby halted the drive with an interception at the 19.

The Lions also missed a couple of good scoring opportunities. A 32-yard field goal attempt by Jack Secrest in the third period fell just inches short following a bad placement. That attempt was set up after the Lion defense blocked a Kings Mountain punt.

Midway of the fourth period, the Lions gained life after Kings Mountain roughed the kicker on a punting attempt and drove inside the KM 10. But Kevin Toms fumbled at the 12 and Kings Mountain's Brad Reynolds recovered.

The Mountaineer defense held the Lions' high-powered running attack to just 109 yards rushing. Toms was the Lions' leading rusher with 52 yards in 16 carries and the Mounties held Shelby's big fullback, Randy Heffner, to just 27 yards in nine attempts.

Although he felt his men should have won the game in regulation, Coach Dan Brooks of the Mounties was still overjoyed with the victory.

"Shelby had a real fine ballteam," he said. "We had a real good team effort. The backs ran hard and Chris played real well at quarterback. I hate it that he's a senior because he really came along and developed into a fine high school quarterback."

The Mountaineers held the upper hand in all offensive statistics. Junior tailback Curt Pressley led the rushing for the second straight week with 122 yards in 21 carries and the Mounties hit on 4-of-10 passes for 55 yards. Penalties again hurt the Mounties in key situations.

"We had a lot of first and 25's and first and 15's," Brooks said. "It wasn't the same people causing the penalties. We always made a critical mistake when we

got in good position. Last week, I thought we'd cut down on our mistakes, but we still made a lot of them. But I was real pleased with the team effort and was real pleased with the defense."

"Shelby does a lot of things on offense," he continued. "We were real worried about their quarterback. He throws the ball well deep. But they didn't have anybody open deep all night. Curt Pressley, Thomas Putnam and Zack Roseboro all did a real fine job in the secondary."

"Our offensive line did a good job, too," he went on. "Shelby does a lot of things on defense and we didn't block the right people all of the time. But we gave a big effort on every play."

Brooks praised the players for their hard work during practice last week and his assistant coaches for preparing the team.

"It was a great team effort all the way," he said. "Everybody worked hard. Not many groups of kids would be 1-4 and then finish 6-4. I'm real proud of all of them."

"It was a good finish to a season that started pretty slow," he went on. "You have to praise the players for not giving up. As it turned out, one point kept us out of the playoffs. If the two-point conversion at East Rutherford (East won 7-6) had worked or if the field goal that we kicked had not been nullified on a penalty, we'd be in the playoffs right now."

Mountaineer Gridgraph

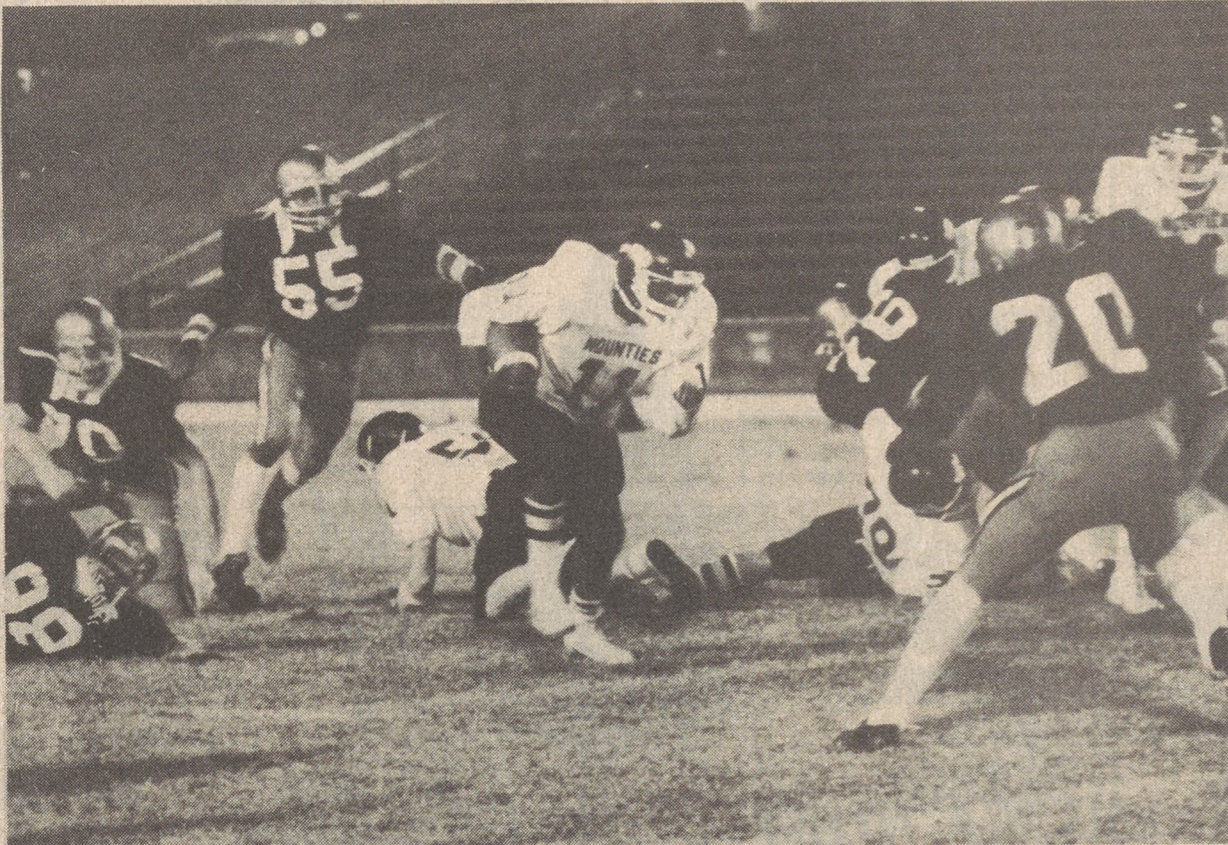
	KM	S
First Downs	14	7
Yds. Rushing	217	109
Passes	4-10-1	1-11-0
Yds. Passing	55	5
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Punts	5-22	4-48
Yds. Penalized	95	61
By Quarters		
KM		0 0 0 0 8-8
S		0 0 0 0 0-0

KM - Schronce, 11 pass from Champion (Johnson run).

Player	Carries	Yards
Curt Pressley	21	122
David Parker	8	42
Tracy Johnson	10	42
Thomas Putnam	1	10
Mike Grier	1	4
Chris Champion	4	-3

Player	Att.	Comp.	Int.	Yds.	TD
Champion	7	3	1	43	1
Johnson	3	1	0	12	0

Player	Catches	Yds.	TD
Schronce	2	23	1
Dixon	1	21	0
Hullender	1	11	0



Photos by Gary Stewart

LEADING RUSHER—Kings Mountain's Curt Pressley (11) runs for some of his game-high 122 yards rushing in Friday's Southwestern

3-A Conference football game with Shelby. The Mounties won 8-0 in overtime.

Toney Wins Contest

Barry Toney of P.O. Box 73, Grover, hit the tie-breaker on the nose to win last week's Herald football contest.

Toney predicted 16 of 20 winners in area high school and college football games. Others picking 16 of 20 were Pat Spearman of Kings Mountain, Gary Buff of Shelby, Angela Queen of Kings Mountain and Ralph Lowery of Kings Mountain.

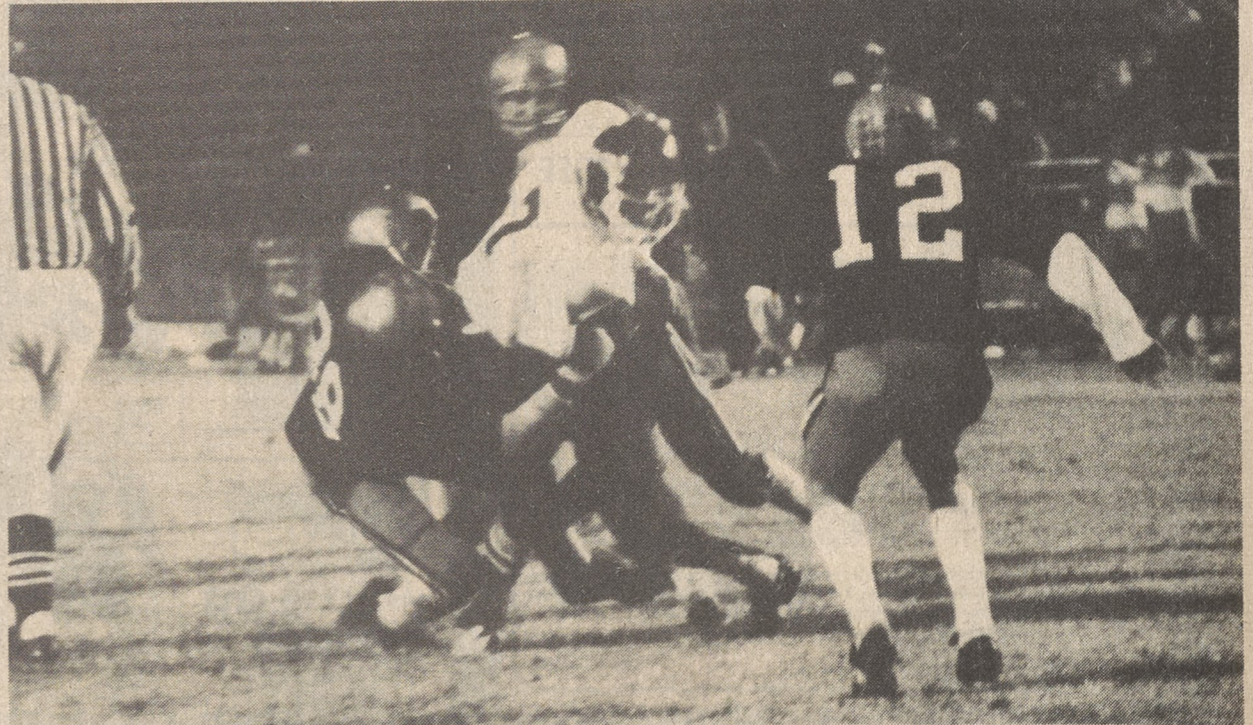
Toney predicted that 29 points would be scored in the North Carolina-Clemson game, won by the Tigers 16-13. Toney missed Bunker Hill's win over Bessemer City, Cherryville over West Lincoln, York over Clover

and Notre Dame over Pittsburgh.

Spearman missed BC-Bunker Hill, Pitt-Notre Dame, LSU over Alabama and Air Force over Army, and predicted 23 on the tie-breaker. Buff missed BC-Bunker Hill, West Lincoln-Cherryville, York-Clover and Pitt-Notre Dame and picked 38 on the tie-breaker. Queen missed West Lincoln-Cherryville, Pitt-Notre Dame, Alabama-LSU and Washington over UCLA and picked 43 on the tie-breaker. Lowery missed East Gaston over Burns, BC-Bunker Hill, West Lincoln-Cherryville and Georgia Tech over Virginia and picked

55 on the tie-breaker.

The results of the games were Kings Mountain over Shelby, Crest over R-S Central, East Gaston over Burns, South Point over Chase, East Rutherford over North Gaston, Ashbrook over Hunter Huss, Bunker Hill over Bessemer City, Cherryville over West Lincoln, Clover over York, Penn State over N.C. State, Notre Dame over Pitt, Florida State over South Carolina, Maryland over Miami, LSU over Alabama, Georgia over Florida, Georgia Tech over Virginia, Duke over Wake Forest, Clemson over North Carolina, Air Force over Army and Washington over UCLA.



SETS UP TD—Kings Mountain end Trent Hullender (7) fights for yardage after catching a pass from Chris Champion in overtime in Friday's game with Shelby. Hullender's

11-yard reception set up the game winning 11-yard TD pass from Champion to Jay Schronce as the Mounties edged the Lions 8-0.